

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete claims 1-31 and replace them with claims 32-36 as follows:

32. A method for delivery of DNA to cells of a host vertebrate species, said method comprising the step of contacting the cells *in vivo* with a composition comprising a collagenous matrix and an added exogenous deoxyribonucleic acid, wherein the collagenous matrix comprises submucosa tissue delaminated from both the tunica muscularis and at least the luminal portion of the tunica mucosa of warm-blooded vertebrate submucosa and wherein the deoxyribonucleic acid encodes a biofunctional protein.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein the step of contacting the cells comprises the step of implanting the composition into the host vertebrate species.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein the submucosa tissue is intestinal submucosa.

35. The method of claim 32, wherein the submucosa is in an injectable form and the step of contacting the cells comprises the step of injecting the composition into the host vertebrate species.

36. The method of claim 32, wherein the collagenous matrix consists essentially of the tunica submucosa, and the basilar portion of the tunica mucosa of the intestine of a warm-blooded vertebrate.